

Reply To Examiner's Remarks

Claims 1-18, 33, 35-36 and 38-42, as amended, are presented for consideration.

The Examiner allows claims 1-18 and 39-42.

The Examiner rejects claims 33 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 103(a), citing and applying the disclosures in U.S. Patent No. 6,157,411, issued to Williams et al, and in U.S. Patent No, 5,874,985, issued to Matthews.

The Examiner objects to claims 34, 35, 37 and 38 and indicates that these claims would be allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 33 is amended to include the limitations of claim 34 (which is then cancelled), and claim 35 is amended to depend upon the amended claim 33. Claim 36 is amended to include the limitations of claim 37 (which is then cancelled), and claim 38 is amended to depend upon the amended claim 36.

The Applicants believe that claims 1-18, 33, 35-36 and 38-42, as amended in accord with the Examiner's directions, are in proper form for allowance. The Applicants request that the Examiner pass the application, including claims 1-18, 33, 35-36 and 38-42, to issue as a U.S. patent.

Respectfully Submitted,



John Schipper

Patent representative for Applicants

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